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CLAIMS

1. A method for selecting a broadcast program, comprising:
receiving a first user input representing a first digit associated with said
5 broadcast program;
storing first data representing said first digit within one (T1) of a first
predetermined time interval for a first region and a second predetermined time
interval for a second region; and
processing said first data for selecting said broadcast program.
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2. The method of claim 1, wherein:
said first predetermined time interval is shorter than said second
predetermined time interval; and
said first data is processed after one of said first and second
15 predetermined time intervals expires.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprised of:
receiving a second user input representing a second digit associated
with said broadcast program within one of said first and second predetermined time
20 intervals; and
processing said second data for selecting said broadcast program.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprised of:
receiving a second user input representing a second digit associated
25 with said broadcast program within a third predetermined time interval (T2) after one
of said first and second predetermined time intervals expires; and
processing said second data for selecting said broadcast program.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said first region includes Europe and
30 Asia.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein said second region includes North
America and South America.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein:
said first region receives first broadcast programs from a first service provider; and
said second region receives second broadcast programs from a second service provider.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprised of:
enabling user selection of one of said first region and said second region; and
storing data corresponding to one of said first region and said second region responsive to said user selection.

9. An apparatus (20), comprising:
tuning means (15) for tuning a frequency providing a broadcast program;
memory means (14) for storing first data representing a first digit associated with said broadcast program responsive to a first user input, said memory means (14) storing said first data within one (T1) of a first predetermined time interval for a first region and a second predetermined time interval for a second region; and
processing means (13) for processing said first data and controlling said tuning means (15) to select said broadcast program.

10. The apparatus (20) of claim 9, wherein:
said first predetermined time interval is shorter than said second predetermined time interval; and
said processing means (13) processes said first data after one of said first and second predetermined time intervals expires.

11. The apparatus (20) of claim 9, wherein said processing means (13):
detects a second user input representing a second digit associated with said broadcast program within one of said first and second predetermined time intervals; and
processes said second data for selecting said broadcast program.

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12. The apparatus (20) of claim 9, wherein said processing means (13):
detects a second user input representing a second digit associated with
said broadcast program within a third predetermined time interval (T2) after one of
said first and second predetermined time intervals expires; and
5 processes said second data for selecting said broadcast program.

13. The apparatus (20) of claim 9, wherein said first region includes Europe
and Asia.

10 14. The apparatus (20) of claim 9, wherein said second region includes
North America and South America.

15 15. The apparatus (20) of claim 9, wherein:
said first region receives first broadcast programs from a first service
provider; and
said second region receives second broadcast programs from a second
service provider.

20 16. The apparatus (20) of claim 9, wherein said memory means (14) stores
data corresponding to one of said first region and said second region responsive to
user selection of one of said first region and said second region.

25 17. A television signal receiver (20), comprising:
a tuner (15) operative to tune a frequency providing a broadcast
program;
a memory (14) operative to store first data representing a first digit
associated with said broadcast program responsive to a first user input, wherein said
memory (14) stores said first data within one (T1) of a first predetermined time
interval for a first region and a second predetermined time interval for a second
30 region; and
a processor (13) operative to process said first data and control said
tuner (15) to select said broadcast program.

18. The television signal receiver (20) of claim 17, wherein:

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said first predetermined time interval is shorter than said second predetermined time interval; and

said processor (13) processes said first data after one of said first and second predetermined time intervals expires.

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19. The television signal receiver (20) of claim 17, wherein said processor (13) is further operative to:

detect a second user input representing a second digit associated with said broadcast program within one of said first and second predetermined time intervals; and

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process said second data to select said broadcast program.

20. The television signal receiver (20) of claim 17, wherein said processor (13) is further operative to:

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detect a second user input representing a second digit associated with said broadcast program within a third predetermined time interval (T2) after one of said first and second predetermined time intervals expires; and

process said second data to select said broadcast program.

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21. The television signal receiver (20) of claim 17, wherein said first region includes Europe and Asia.

22. The television signal receiver (20) of claim 17, wherein said second region includes North America and South America.

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23. The television signal receiver (20) of claim 17, wherein:
said first region receives first broadcast programs from a first service provider; and

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said second region receives second broadcast programs from a second service provider.

24. The television signal receiver (20) of claim 17, wherein said memory (14) is further operative to store data corresponding to one of said first region and

said second region responsive to user selection of one of said first region and said second region.

25. A method for selecting a broadcast program, comprising:

5 receiving a first user input representing a first digit associated with said broadcast program;

receiving a second user input representing a second digit associated with said broadcast program;

10 processing data corresponding to said first and second user inputs to select said broadcast program if said second digit is in a first set of digits; and

waiting for a third user input representing a third digit associated with said broadcast program without selecting said broadcast program if said second digit is in a second set of digits, wherein said first set of digits is different from said second set of digits.

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26. The method of claim 25, wherein:

said first set of digits includes 3 through 9; and

said second set of digits includes 0 through 2.

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27. The method of claim 25, further comprised of:

starting a predetermined time interval (T2) responsive to said first user input; and

wherein said second user input is received within said predetermined time interval (T2);

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28. An apparatus (20), comprising:

tuning means (15) for tuning frequencies providing broadcast programs;

30 processing means (13) for detecting a first user input representing a first digit associated with a broadcast program and a second user input representing a second digit associated with said broadcast program;

wherein said processing means (13) processes data corresponding to said first and second user inputs to select said broadcast program if said second digit is in a first set of digits; and

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wherein said processing means (13) waits for a third user input representing a third digit associated with said broadcast program without selecting said broadcast program if said second digit is in a second set of digits, wherein said first set of digits is different from said second set of digits.

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29. The apparatus (20) of claim 28, wherein:
said first set of digits includes 3 through 9; and
said second set of digits includes 0 through 2.

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30. The apparatus (20) of claim 28, wherein:
said processing means (13) starts a predetermined time interval (T2) responsive to said first user input; and
said second user input is detected by said processing means (13) within said predetermined time interval (T2);

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